(c) location-wise installed capacity of WLL service in Assam showing number of connections already provided and proposed for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Distribution of mobile phones in NER

1208. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mobile phones Government have decided to distribute in each State of the North-Eastern Region;

(b) the basis on which this number of mobile phones has been fixed;

(c) by when the programme of distribution of mobile phones would be executed;

(d) what is the suggestion of the State Government on the number of mobile phones; and

(e) how the suggestion of the State Government is taken to account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Sir, for Cellular Mobile Telephone Services (CMTS), Assam and North East Telecom Circle Service Areas cover the North Eastern Region. Licences for providing CMTS in these two Service Areas have been granted to Indian companies including Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) (a Public Sector Undertaking). In terms of number of CMTS connection, notarget has been fixed by the Government for the CMTS Licensees in any of the Service Areas, including for North-Eastern States. However, BSNL have planned for providing a total of 95350 CMTS connections in these two Service Areas, as per the details given in the Statement. *{See* below). BSNL have made the plans based on coverage of District Headquarters, important

tourist centers, important pilgrimage places and important national highways etc. These connections are expected to be rolled out during the current financial year subject to clearance of the BSNL radio transmission sites from SACFA (Standing Advisory Committee on Frequency Allocation) angle.

(d) and (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

BSNL plan for CMTS connections in the North Eastern Region

SI.No.	Name of State	No. of CMTS connections planned
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	14300
2.	Manipur	8300
3.	Meghalaya	7300
4.	Mizoram	8300
5.	Nagaland	8300
6.	Tripura	6300
7.	Assam	42550
	TOTAL	95350

Introduction of cell phones in N.E. States

1209. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to introduce cell phones in the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the number of mobile phones earmarked against each State of the North Eastern Region;

(c) what is the position of the State of Tripura in terms of population and the number of such phones amongst the State of NER; and